

Bega Valley Shire Council village newsletter

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'IMAGINE' solar farm opening

The official opening of the Tathra Community Solar Farm this week marked an exciting "first" for the Bega Valley Shire Council and Clean Energy for Eternity. Mayor Michael Britten said he was thrilled that the project is the first community-council partnership of this type in Australia. He said Council has supported CEFE for a number of years and was excited that the Tathra Community Solar Farm has come to fruition through the hard work of the local community and Council. It demonstrates the effectiveness of Council and the community working together and shows how we can create ripples at a national level. Council has invested an initial \$25,000 in the community solar farm at the Tathra Sewage Treatment Works and managed the project delivery. Solar panels at the farm are arranged to spell 'IMAGINE' when seen from the air, and together they will account for up to 50 per cent of the power needs of the sewage treatment plant which currently costs about \$30,000 a year to run.

Photograph: The IMAGINE solar array at the Tathra sewage treatment plant.



Pool managers' contracts extended

The contracts of the managers operating the public swimming pools at Cobargo, Bega and Candelo will be extended for two years during which time Council will work with the operators to make improvements to the pools. Operations of the pools are heavily subsidised by the broader community and there is an opportunity to make some improvements to the current arrangements. We are looking to improve consistency in reporting, defining services and programs, promotion and operational aspects.

Bemboka bush dance

There will be a bush dance in the Bemboka Memorial Hall on Friday, 17 April from 7pm to 10pm. There will be live music from the Kameruka Bush Orchestra (including a dance caller). There will be free ice cream for the children and a best bush hat competition for kids and adults. Entry costs \$5 for adults, \$2 for children or \$12 for families. The bush dance is a community initiative of the Bemboka Improvement Group and Bemboka Rural Area Support.

Jobs with Council

Bega Town Team Leader

The successful applicant will be required to coordinate staff involved in the overall field operation and maintenance of council's infrastructure, and all aspects of town maintenance, footpaths, storm water, parks and toilets. Applications close on 31 March at 5pm.

Mechanical Trades Team Leader

Applicants need trade qualifications as a mechanical fitter-machinist, or equivalent mechanical trade and a minimum of five years recent water and sewage industry mechanical servicing and supervisory experience. Applications close on 3 April 2015 at 4.30pm.

Organic Waste Project Officer

The successful applicant will be a self-motivated leader, with a solid background in operations, process management and quality assurance as well as significant ability to analyse and solve problems, excellent communication skills and business acumen. Applications close 10 April 2015 at 5pm.

Position descriptions are available from our website or by phoning Council. When applying address the selection criteria in your application and send to: Email: recruitment@begavalley.nsw.gov.au Post: The General Manager, Bega Valley Shire Council, PO Box 492, Bega NSW 2550. Fax: 6499 2200. Applications received after closing time won't be considered.

Call: 02 6499 2222 Fax: 02 6499 2200 Email: council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au Web: www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au

Internet access is available at all of our libraries in Bega, Bermagui, Eden and Merimbula.

Please send all correspondence to PO Box 492, BEGA NSW 2550.

To view exhibition documents visit us at our Bega office in Zingel Place or one of our libraries: Bermagui - Bunga Street, Eden - Cnr Mitchell & Imlay Streets, Merimbula - 103 Main Street.



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Busy weekend

Not only will we be voting for the State Government on Saturday, it is also Earth Hour when we are asked to turn off the lights for an hour from 8.30 to 9.30pm (you can still watch the election results on TV with the lights off!) and Sunday will be the last day of the season for our outdoor pools at Bega, Bemboka, Candelo, Cobargo and Eden. The Sapphire Aquatic Centre is open all year round, Monday to Friday from 6am to 7pm, Saturday from 8.30am to 5pm and Sunday from 10am to 5pm.

Crochet hooks needed

The Shire's local and family history librarian, Linda Albertson, is asking for any crochet hooks you no longer want and don't mind if they aren't returned. She will take any sized hooks and they will be used in crochet and knitting lessons coming up at Bega library over the next few weeks in preparation for a large display of crocheted and knitted poppies on Anzac Day.

Call Linda on 6499 2243, email her at lalbertson@begavalley.nsw.gov.au or just drop your hooks into your local library and they will find their way to Linda.

If you would like to learn how to crochet or knit, local crafter, Sandy Burns will be at Bega library on Saturdays and Tuesdays from 10am to 11.30am on 28 March, 31 March, 7 April and 11 April. Groups will be limited to four people at each session and you can book your spot online at <http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/learn-how-to-knit-or-crochet-a-poppy-for-anzac-day-tickets-16151746308> or phone the Bega library on 6499 2127.

Young Women's Scholarships

Congratulations to four young women who so impressed Bega Valley Shire Councillors with their applications for Council's Young Women's Scholarship that they awarded them all scholarships this year. The \$500 scholarships were presented to three of the awardees by Cr Sharon Tapscott at the opening of the International Women's Day art exhibition at the Spiral Gallery earlier this month. The awardees are Kaela McCulloch, 25, of Wapengo who will use her scholarship to buy a tablet device which will enable her to video group participation and help group members stay up to date with technological advances so that they can access information on the internet. Georgia Shellard, 21, of Candelo is doing a Bachelor of Nursing degree at the Bega Campus of the University of Wollongong and will use her scholarship to assist in her university work placement. Jacinta Griffin, 23, of Bega will use her scholarship to attend conferences and functions across Australia to learn new skills and knowledge to empower the coming generation to get involved. Lily Nugent, 20, of Pambula will use her scholarship to buy a Veterinary Nursing Manual and other relevant text books.



Tenders

Bega Council Regional Sports Facilities Master Planning. All Council tendering information and tenders are received through the e-Tendering portal at www.tenderlink.com.au/begavalley

Mt Darragh roadworks

Drainage and rehabilitation works will be done on Mt Darragh Rd, South Pambula, from the Princes Highway intersection to Drive-In Lane. The work will be done between Monday, 13 April and Friday, 29 May between 6am and 6pm. Partial street closures will be necessary as part of the work. Access to these streets will be permitted but no parking will be allowed while works are in progress. For more information call James Downes on 0428 260 996.

Photograph: Young Women's Scholarship recipients, Georgia Shellard, Lily Nugent and Jacinta Griffin with Cr Sharon Tapscott at Bega's Spiral Gallery.

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